In the Claims:

Add new claims 21-24. The entire set of pending claims is shown below.

1   1.   (Original) A consumable order assistance system for

2   computer peripheral devices, comprising:

3   a personal computer having a web browser and a messaging

4   system;

5   at least one computer peripheral device having a messaging

6   system;

7   a communication link signal coupling the personal computer with a

8   seller of a consumable for the computer peripheral device via the web browser;

9   and

10   a consumable order assistance computer program provided on the

11   personal computer and configured to receive a notification from the computer

12   peripheral device via the messaging system of a need to order a consumable,

13   alert a user of the personal computer of the notification, and provide an order

14   location to the user for the consumable.

1   2.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable

2   order assistance computer program is further configured to collect a series of

3   notifications and summarize the series of notifications for one or more computer

4   peripheral devices.

1   3.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable

2   order assistance computer program consolidates a plurality of notifications from

3   the at least one computer peripheral device.

1   4.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable

2   order assistance computer program is further configured to request identification

3   from a user to verify authorization of the user to submit an order.

1   5.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable

2   order assistance computer program is further configured to request at least one

3   level of authorization from a user before sending an order via the communication

4   link to a reseller of the consumable.

1   6.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable

2   order assistance computer program is further configured to request at least one

3   level of authorization from a user before sending an order via the communication

4   link to a reseller of the consumable.

1   7.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable

2   order assistance computer program is further configured to prompt a customer

3   user for authorization information.

1   8.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the

2   communication link comprises an electronic communication link that enables the

3   consumable order assistance computer program to submit an e-mail order.

1   9.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the

2   communication link comprises an electronic communication link that enables the

3   consumable order assistance computer program to submit a facsimile order.

1   10.   (Previously presented) A computer-implemented system

2   which implements a program in which consumable components of computer

3   peripheral devices are replenished, the system comprising:

4   a notification system that alerts a user of a personal computer that

5   they need to order a consumable for a computer peripheral device associated

6   with the personal computer;

7   a facilitation system that provides a communication link with a

8   reseller of the consumable; and

9   at least one from a list of a consolidation system for consolidating

10   a plurality of orders, an authorization system for confirming that a user is

1 authorized to place an order for the consumable, and an order assistance system
2 that places an order for the consumable.

1   11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the notification
2 system identifies for the user a part number for a consumable that needs to be
3 ordered for the computer peripheral device.

1   12. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the notification
2 system comprises a messaging system within an embedded web server of a
3 computer peripheral device and a messaging system within a personal computer.

1   13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the personal
2 computer further comprises a browser, and the messaging system comprises an
3 e-mail application, wherein the computer peripheral device sends an e-mail
4 notification to the personal computer to alert a user to a need to order a
5 consumable.

1   14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the e-mail
2 notification identifies the consumable by a part number.

1   15. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the system
2 comprises the consolidation system configured to aggregate a plurality of
3 notifications for one or more computer peripheral devices.

1   16. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the system
2 comprises the authorization system configured to request authorization from a
3 user prior to automatically submitting an order for the consumable to a reseller
4 of the consumable.

1   17. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the system
2 comprises the order assistance system configured to automatically submit an
3 order for the consumable in response to receiving a notification that a
4 consumable needs to be ordered.

1   18.   (Original)   A method of providing order assistance,

2   comprising:

3   providing a computer peripheral device, a personal computer having

4   a communication link with a reseller of a consumable, and a messaging system

5   extending between the computer peripheral device and the personal computer;

6   detecting a need to replenish a consumable at the computer

7   peripheral device;

8   notifying a user at the personal computer of the need to replenish

9   the consumable;

10   providing an order address location to a user for a reseller that sells

11   the consumable; and

12   placing an order for the consumable with the reseller using the

13   personal computer.

1   19.   (Original)   The method of claim 18 wherein placing the order

2   comprises automatically placing the order for the consumable in response to

3   notifying the user.

1   20.   (Original)   The method of claim 18 wherein, prior to placing

2   an order, querying a user to authorize placing the order with an identified

3   reseller.

1   21.   (New)   A consumable order assistance system for computer

2   peripheral devices, comprising:

3   a personal computer having a web browser and a messaging

4   system;

5   at least one computer peripheral device having a messaging

6   system;

7   a bi-directional communication link signal coupling the personal

8   computer with a seller of a consumable for the computer peripheral device via

9   the web browser, the bi-directional communication link configured to enable a

10 user to interact with the computer peripheral device to obtain information on a

11 consumable for one computer peripheral device including at least one of

12 consumable levels, media levels and types, warnings, notifications, job

13 assurance, and printer capabilities;

14   a consumable order assistance computer program provided on the

15 personal computer and configured to receive a notification from the computer

16 peripheral device via the messaging system of a need to order a consumable,

17 alert a user of the personal computer of the notification, and provide an order

18 location to the user for the consumable; and

19   a server communicating with one of the personal computer and the

20 at least one computer peripheral device and including a centralized management

21 database having information pulled from the Internet and comprising at least one

22 of consumable part numbers, alternative consumable part numbers, and

23 information for selecting a reseller.

1   22. (New) The consumable order assistance system of claim 21

2 wherein at least one of the server and the at least one computer peripheral

3 device proactively generates a warning to a user at the personal computer

4 comprising information on an upcoming issue regarding maintenance and

5 operation of a selected computer peripheral device.

1   23. (New) The consumable order assistance system of claim 21

2 wherein the personal computer includes an application interface comprising an

3 extended data interface.

1   24. (New) The consumable order assistance system of claim 21

2 wherein the centralized management database is configured for interaction with a

3 maintainer at the personal computer to enable determination of when to replace a

4 consumable as well as at least one of what consumable to replace, alternative parts

5 for the associated peripheral device, issue urgency, proactive warning of one or more

6 next issues, computer peripheral device location, owner/contact information,

7 computer peripheral device model information, and impending maintenance

8 notification.